



GRANT APPLICATION

The **Ocean Guardian School** program funds projects focused on current issues affecting local watersheds and/or the ocean while promoting best environmental practices. Through a school- or community-based project, schools work to make a difference in the health and protection of their local watersheds, ocean and marine sanctuaries.

Grant amounts range from \$2,000 - \$6,000 per school depending on the level of the project and number of classes and grades involved.

How to Complete and Submit Your Application

Step 1: Complete your application online.

Step 2: Print your completed application along with any additional pages.

Step 3: Make a copy of your application packet for your files.

Step 4: Mail your completed application to: **NOAA's Office of National Marine Sanctuaries, Attn: Ocean Guardian Schools, 299 Foam Street, Monterey, CA 93940.** *For more information, contact Naomi Pollack, naomi.pollack@noaa.gov.*

APPLICATION DUE DATE

All grant applications are due **May 1** (for projects to begin on Sept. 1). Funding decisions will be made by early June. The project period will begin on Sept. 1 and must run for the full academic year.

Applications must be postmarked, or provided to a delivery service by 5:00 pm Pacific on May 1. Use of U.S. mail or another delivery service must be documented with a receipt. No facsimile or electronic mail applications will be accepted.

PLEASE NOTE:

For those schools currently involved with an Ocean Guardian School funded project, please include a progress report of your project *with your new application*. This information should include the following:

- Budget report;
- Documentation of your outreach work; and
- Brief summary of your project and accomplishments to date.

REVIEW AND SELECTION

- Any school (K-12) located in the following California counties can apply for an Ocean Guardian School grant: Marin, San Francisco, Alameda, Contra Costa, Sonoma, San Mateo, Santa Cruz, Santa Clara, Monterey, San Benito, San Luis Obispo, Santa Barbara, and Ventura.
- Schools may re-apply for funding for a single project for up to three (3) successive years. In such cases, schools must re-submit a new application for each successive year by the appropriate application deadline.
- If program requirements have been met during the funded project period, a school will receive official Ocean Guardian School recognition and an Ocean Guardian School banner.

APPLICATION REVIEW CRITERIA *(weighted equally)*

1. A specific school- or community-based project that addresses a current issue(s) affecting local watersheds and/or the ocean.
2. The number of classes and grades directly involved in the project.
3. Underserved/underrepresented school.
4. How the project will make a difference in the school and/or local community.
5. The outreach plan for communicating to others about your project and its goals.

Before completing the application, please review the project requirements below.

PROJECT REQUIREMENTS

1. SCHOOL- OR COMMUNITY-BASED PROJECT: The Ocean Guardian School program funds projects focused on current issues affecting local watersheds, the ocean and/or marine sanctuaries while promoting best environmental practices. Through a school- or community-based project, schools work to make a difference in the health and protection of their local watersheds, the ocean and/or marine sanctuaries. Below is a list of general topics and examples of projects that are commonly funded by the Ocean Guardian School program. If your project idea does not relate to this list, but meets the goals of the program, please contact the program director to discuss your idea before applying. Remember to keep the proposal focused on a single project.

- **Restoration** - Watershed/wetland restoration, fish habitat creation, shoreline/bank stabilization
- **Recycling/Reuse/Reduce** - School-wide recycling/composting programs, redesign and implementation of school-based wastewater system, school-wide green purchasing program, zero waste lunch programs
- **Marine Debris** - Program to reduce single use plastic bottles in school, promoting reusable bags in local community/stores, marking school and local storm drains
- **Water Quality Monitoring** - Monitoring data used to help create or redefine a community watershed management plan, school-use water plan, or community land-use plan
- **Schoolyard Habitats/Gardens** - Creating or improving school gardens/schoolyard habitats with an emphasis on native plants, low water use, rain catchment systems, etc. while clearly connecting these activities to the health and preservation of the local watershed and/or the ocean

2. KICK-OFF INTRODUCTORY ASSEMBLY: Once you have received funding, we ask that you formally inform the entire school about your Ocean Guardian School project. A school-wide assembly is recommended for this event, but other approaches are welcome. Please include the following in your school presentation at your assembly: description of the project, its goals, how your project contributes to the protection and/or conservation of the local watersheds and/or the ocean, introductory information about national marine sanctuaries, and the commitment that the school is making to protect watersheds, the ocean and national marine sanctuaries.

3. WATERSHED IDENTIFICATION: All projects must incorporate learning opportunities around watershed identification. Students should be able to identify in what watershed their school is located as well as some of the surrounding watersheds, nearby ocean and national marine sanctuaries.

4. OCEAN LITERACY PRINCIPLES: Please visit NOAA's website to view the Ocean Literacy Principles: <http://oceanservice.noaa.gov/education/literacy.html>. At least one (preferably more) Ocean Literacy Principle must be integrated into your school project.

5. FINAL WRAP-UP ASSEMBLY: At the end of the project period, students who have been involved with the Ocean Guardian project will creatively present some aspect of the project to the entire student body (e.g., their experiences, lessons learned, best practices, community outreach and future plans). Presentations can take the form of videos, reading, art work, songs, plays, poems, etc.

6. FINAL REPORT: A final project and budget report is required at the end of your project period.

7. EVALUATION: We may ask you to participate in an Ocean Guardian School evaluation at the end of your project period. This might involve the participation of the principal, teacher(s), students, parent(s), and/or community members who have worked on the project.





SCHOOL INFORMATION

Any school (K-12) located in the following California counties can become an Ocean Guardian School: Marin, San Francisco, Alameda, Contra Costa, Sonoma, San Mateo, Santa Cruz, Santa Clara, Monterey, San Benito, San Luis Obispo, Santa Barbara, and Ventura.

NAME OF SCHOOL:

DATE:

SCHOOL ADDRESS:

TITLE 1 SCHOOL?

Yes

No

Has your school applied for or received an Ocean Guardian School grant prior to this application?

Yes

No

If yes, please list date(s):

**SCHOOL PRINCIPLE
NAME:**

DAYTIME PHONE:

EVENING PHONE OR CELL:

SCHOOL EMAIL:

SUMMER EMAIL ADDRESS:

**LEAD TEACHER/PROJECT COORDINATOR
NAME:**

DAYTIME PHONE:

EVENING PHONE OR CELL:

SCHOOL EMAIL:

SUMMER EMAIL ADDRESS:



PROJECT INFORMATION

Grant amounts range from \$2,000 - \$6,000 per school depending on the level of the project and number of classes and grades involved.

1. Amount of funding requested: \$
2. Number of directly participating grade levels:
3. Number of directly participating classes:
4. Number of directly participating students:
5. Number of directly participating teachers:
6. Total number of students in entire school:
7. Proposed project topic area: *(check only one)*

Restoration

Water Quality Monitoring

Other *(please explain on a separate sheet of paper)*

Recycle/Reuse/Reduce

Schoolyard Habitat/Garden

Marine Debris

8. Ocean Guardian Assemblies: As part of your planning process, begin to think about both the kick-off introductory and final wrap-up school assemblies. We hope to visit as many Ocean Guardian School gatherings as possible so please give us your estimated dates for both events.

Kick-off Introductory Assembly Date:

Final Wrap-up Assembly Date:



PROJECT DESCRIPTION

Please visit the Ocean Guardian website http://sanctuaries.noaa.gov/education/ocean_guardian/examples.html to see examples of school- and community-based projects.

If you need additional space, please answer the following questions on a separate page(s) and include with your application.

1. PROJECT SUMMARY: Describe your school- or community-based project in no less than three (3) sentences. We strongly encourage students to develop and write the project summary. Include at least three (3) goals of your project.

2. CLASSROOM INTEGRATION: How will this project be integrated into classroom instruction?

3. OCEAN LITERACY PRINCIPLES: Please visit the NOAA website to view the Ocean Literacy Principles: <http://oceanservice.noaa.gov/education/literacy.html>. Which Ocean Literacy Principle(s) will be integrated into your project and why?



PROJECT DESCRIPTION (*continued*)

4. WATERSHEDS: What opportunities will the students have to learn about watersheds (including their local watershed), and how watersheds connect to the ocean and national marine sanctuaries?

5. HANDS-ON ACTIVITY: Does the project include a hands-on activity for students such as planting native plants, constructing local wetlands, stenciling storm drains? If so, please describe the activity.

6. FIELD TRIPS: Will this project involve field trips?

Yes No If yes, describe the field trip. How will the field trip supplement the learning opportunities of the project?



PROJECT DESCRIPTION (*continued*)

7. MAKING A DIFFERENCE: By becoming an Ocean Guardian School, your project **MUST** propose to make a difference in the school or local community. How will your project do this? What best practices will your project promote? How will the students learn what actions they can take to improve their local watershed and/or the ocean?

8. PROJECT OUTREACH: Describe your outreach strategy. How will you share your project with your local community (especially if you are conducting a community-based project), your peers, and your school?

[illegible]



OCEAN GUARDIAN SCHOOL COMMITMENT

Sign this form and include with your application.

1. The Principal, leadership team and school staff is fully supportive of the program.
2. There is a willingness to involve the whole school community, particularly the students, in the planning and implementation of the program.
3. There is at least one person (preferably a team of people) in the school who is committed to the program.
4. The principal is willing to sign an 'Ocean Guardianship Commitment' with the following expectations:
 - Designate a contact person for the program from the school
 - Agree for the whole school or a whole class to participate fully in the program
 - Participate in the evaluation of the program, if required.

Our school, staff and students pledge to make a commitment to the protection and conservation of our local watersheds, the world's ocean, and special ocean areas, like national marine sanctuaries. We pledge to implement a school or community-based conservation project that is related to current issues affecting the ocean and promotes best environmental practices.

Principal's Signature and Date:

Lead Teacher's Signature and Date:
